



July 2021 Board Meeting Minutes

July 28, 2021 • 6:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M. Via ZOOM conference

Attendees: Robert Sakai, Mary Ishisaki, Steve Ishii, Jerry Ono, Alex Prouty, Kathy Nelsen, Emily Nichols

Absent: David Dunham, Kim Kolbe, Emily Glick, Dennis Kern

Staff: Grace Horikiri, Brandon Quan, Melissa Ayumi Bailey

Guests: Deputy Chief Lazar (SFPD), Sam Mihara, Dmitri Shimolin, Max Nihei, Jim , Adrienne Woo, Raymond Woo, Benh Nakajo

1. **Call to order and roll call** **6:00**
2. **Action Item: Approval of June 23, 2021 Minutes** **6:03**

Motion: Jerry Ono; Second: Mary Ishisaki
The motion passed unanimously.

3. **June Financial Report** **6:05**
 - A. **Action Item: Approval of June Financial Reports**

Motion: Kathy Nelsen; Second: Jerry Ono
The motion passed unanimously.

The balance sheet as of June 30th shows in the bank \$849,702 with other receivables of \$110 that are prepaid invoices bringing us to a total net assets of \$852,872. We have been putting away agency reserves- \$40,000 for operations and \$10,000 for the cameras, totalling \$50,000. We will be setting aside on a regular basis amounts to cover increasing costs. We will have the maintenance on the equipment and need to put aside money to take care of that. Grace and AVS have worked out a new maintenance budget that is less than the original amount. We will have a carryover from there of \$109,000 that will put us through two years of maintenance. Another \$10,000 a year will be moved from the reserves to cover costs. We have a net income of \$12,000 on the Profit and Loss statement, and adding in the money from the depreciation, the new actual amount is \$158,523, but Note D mentions that \$94,073 is depreciation. Our net income for the year is -\$18,865 which is covered through our carryovers which the City is telling us we must spend down. We are balancing our books with that amount for this year and will be carrying forward that amount to the next fiscal year. We have also raised more money than required by OEWD in the last year and look pretty good for the year ending. The July Financial Reports will have more specifics about what carryover funds are going where. The rest of it the City is allowing us to bank for use in future for specific purposes, but we must limit the total amount that we carry over each year as much as possible. A comment was made that it would be helpful to know the total cost of replacing the entire camera system, so as to get a sense of how much money should be banked in case of emergencies.

B. 3rd Assessment Payment

The 3rd Assessment Payment was made by OEWD in the amount of \$2,266.55. This was taxes that were not previously paid this last fiscal year. This brings us to a total payments received of \$392,410. We expect a possible 4th payment at the end of July or so to bring us to the expected budget total.

6. Guest Speakers from SFPD

6:10

Deputy Chief David Lazar, *Field Operations Bureau and*

Community Engagement Division

Captain Paul Yep, *Northern Station* (did not attend)

Deputy Chief David Lazar: Thank you very much for having me tonight. I am the Deputy Chief of the Field Operations Bureau and oversee Community Engagement for all 10 districts. I'd like to give you an overview of what we're working with right now and what the crime picture looks like, what our staffing looks like and how we're mobilizing:

Capt. Paul Yep at Northern Station is great, you have your foot beats assigned to Japantown. As we're seeing more people return to tourism and people coming back to various areas throughout the City, Chief Scott is deploying additional resources to these places, including Japantown, to handle car break ins and have a visible presence in the neighborhoods. Hopefully you are seeing additional officers on the ground as we have spent the money to ensure this happens despite being understaffed and not having the budget.

We are 400 officers short in SFPD and the Mayor authorized the hiring of about 85 officers this fiscal year, but as we see attrition we will definitely need to be hiring more to have the resources in the next year. We believe having officers on foot and interacting with communities really prevents crime and makes people feel safe. We feel you need to be informed about SFPD and what's going on with staffing and that we work together to address public safety.

Dmitri is on the call tonight and I really appreciate the work he's done in Japantown. Video evidence is incredibly important to have, we need video evidence of things taking place. It sends a message that Japantown is off limits, and we make so many cases we wouldn't have otherwise without the video. I appreciate that Japantown has made that step forward. Auto burglaries are going back up, and I would like to invite everyone to a meeting in 2-3 weeks to meet with the tourism industry and put our heads together to come up with the best education and prevention plan possible to market out about avoiding auto burglaries. Numbers are going up and we're addressing that.

We're having a lot of problems with retail theft and are addressing that as well. We have assigned an officer to address and help businesses prevent and tackle retail theft citywide. We are also seeing burglaries increasing, especially in residential garages all over the City. We recommend having an additional garage latch to prevent this, along with cameras, lights, etc.

In the City we are also having a gun violence problem, it's a national trend we are also seeing here. We're at 130 victims compared to about 65 at the same time last year. We are working on strategies to bring gun violence down and are at about 27 homicides to date which is historically low.

4. Executive Director & Staff Reports**6:25****A. JCBD & Neighborhood Updates**

COVID testing has continued in the Peace Plaza and another will take place on Friday. Because we have been working closely with different COVID response agencies, we are able to bring a mobile testing and vaccination site to Nihonmachi Street Fair on August 7th and 8th. Especially with the recent Delta variant, there is a lot of concern among the small businesses. Bars elsewhere in the City are requiring proof of vaccination so we are staying in contact with our bars to see what changes they will implement but none have done so thus far. Businesses have also been asking for PPE supplies so we are putting in more orders to cover these requests.

B. Grant Submission Updates / Heart of Jtown Resiliency Fund Update

No new updates at this time.

C. Cleaning & Safety Reports

There was an individual camped out at the pedestrian bridge at the corner of Geary and Webster. We have been speaking with DPW and SFPD but unfortunately the policy is still to not move encampments so we are largely left with no options at this time.

However, this morning AI (Community Ambassador) noticed the individual starting a fire and called SFFD who responded. In response, DPW did come out and clean the area and the individual for now has been displaced.

5. Japantown SafeCity Program Updates**6:35**

Last week a meeting was held to discuss what needs to be done currently. An audit will be done of who has access to cameras on each property. An assessment of the camera views will also be conducted to determine if any adjustments need to be made. A request has been made to Rec and Park and DPW to trim trees that are obstructing views.

Dmitri Shimolin: Last committee meeting there was discussion around making sure the camera program works as designed and delivers the evidence to support SFPD. The program is a citywide measure and a public safety effort, and must be maintained. The support program is focused on being proactive and making sure the cameras are staying on and recording. Day and night checks are done and cybersecurity measures are constantly implemented and audited. All of this work is included with the program. There is a five year forecast for the program which took into account that programs have been operating for the last 10 years. For the next fiscal year, we were able to reduce the cost of supporting the program from \$63,450 to \$57,000 due to some credits as well as a 3 year lock in commitment. We want the CBD to be able to rely on consistent costs, therefore for the next 3 years we will be saving some money. Expenditures outside of the plan and insurance policy are also listed in the report based on a 5-10 year track record with other CBDs, but costs are relatively minimal. Hopefully the five year forecast is helpful for budget planning in future.

6. JCBD Marketing & Communication Committee Updates**6:40**

Staff met with the City Mural Program Officer Craig Corpora and learned the hearing process with the Arts Commission is more intensive than previously understood. Given that and the preference of the Commission to approve arts focused projects vs marketing projects, it was determined that this project might be better suited for another organization

such as the Japantown Cultural District rather than JCBD.

Emily Nichols and Max Nihei met today to work on social media with Daikoku by Shiki, which will be the next featured business.

Sumiko Fong, our social media intern, has completed her internship and our new intern Hailey Tokushige will be starting in the next few weeks. Hailey is a Graphic Design major at San Francisco State University and President of the Nikkei Student Union.

Staff is pricing out postcard printing and will have those distributed to sites ASAP.

A. LGPR PR Efforts for FY 21-22

Leah and Tory will address the Board at next month's meeting.

7. Community Updates 6:45

A. Japantown Task Force

JTF and the Cultural District were given a projected date in October to present the CCHES report in front of the Board of Supervisors. Community review and feedback will take place in the month of August. The Cultural District will be rolling out the Co-Creative Hub weekly meeting, and more will be developed as we move forward. Peace Plaza Project work is continuing with DPW and Rec and Park as we move into the final design phase. Community members with memories and family members with businesses on the Peace Plaza site are also being interviewed and filmed. The Planning Department and JTF facilitated a Housing Element in Japantown and received community feedback on housing, meaning of land, and repairing past harms.

8. General public comment* 6:50

Benh Nakajo: The intercom system at my building at 1900 Sutter St. has been vandalized 4 times in the last two months, with the last time being a day and a half ago. I made reports to Northern Station and I was given a number so I don't have to wait around for officers. I was told they would call me back but I am still waiting for a call. My question is you have Webster/Post St. listed in the Crime Report under "Miscellaneous Crimes". Would this be how it is categorized?

- Brandon Quan: These stats are from Northern Station so I am not sure how they categorize these different crimes.

9. Announcements and New Business 6:55

Community Ambassador Shanice has submitted her resignation. She intends to return to school to study in the trades. We wish her the best, she has been a great asset to the JCBD and she will do great things wherever she ends up. We put in a request for a floater to cover the gap in hiring. AI and Block by Block will be working out hiring and conducting interviews of candidates.

10. Action Item: Adjournment 7:00

Motion: Mary Ishisaki; Second: Kathy Nelsen

The motion passed unanimously.

Next JCBD Board Meeting: The next scheduled JCBD Board meeting will take place on Wednesday, August 25, 2021 at 6pm. Due to Shelter in Place Order the board meeting will be conducted on ZOOM. Login information is located at the top of the page.

***General Public Comment:** Members of the public may address the Board for up to two minutes with respect to each item on the agenda, and may speak up to two minutes regarding matters not on the agenda during general public comment. Agenda materials distributed to the JCBD Board members are available for inspection during regular office hours please contact melissa@jtowncbd.org to request materials.